

**THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):** (a) and (b) No change in Government's prohibition policy has been made so far.

(c) The Government has been continuously making effort to educate people about the evils of drinking through the mass-media including All India Radio, Door-Darshan and documentaries and also by assisting Voluntary organisations through grants for educational publicity.

#### Plantation of trees in Delhi

**255. SHRI SATCHIDANANDA:**

**SHRI R. M. DESAI:**

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that thousands of trees are being planted in Delhi;

(b) what is the total amount that is likely to be spent on this project; and

(c) what purpose is likely to be served by this project?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN):** (a) to (c) The information is being col-

lected from the concerned authorities and the same would be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

#### Import of Cross Bar Exchanges

**256. SHRI SATCHIDANANDA:**

**SHRI R. M. DESAI:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had imported cross bar exchanges for Delhi telephones as also for other places in the country;

(b) if so, what is the number of such exchanges and from which countries these exchanges were imported;

(c) whether these cross bar exchanges were purchased by negotiations or through international tenders; and

(d) if these exchanges were purchased by negotiations, what are the reasons for buying the cross bar exchanges which have not proved suitable in countries of their origin and are most unsuitable in Indian conditions and climate?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No. of Exchanges

Capacity

From where imported

Year

(i) 6 local exchanges . . . . .	48,000	Belgium	1964-65
(ii) 4 Trunk automatic exchanges . . . . .	6,500	Belgium	1964-65
(iii) 1 local exchange . . . . .	10,000	Sweden	1974-75
(iv) 14 local exchanges . . . . .	1,40,000	Japan	1976-80

(c) By international tenders.

(d) Question does not arise. However, it may be mentioned that certain deficiencies were found in case of exchanges imported initially during the period 1964-65. These deficiencies have since been made up. The exchanges imported subsequently from 1974-75 onwards have been functioning very satisfactorily.

#### Break-down of Delhi telephones

**257. SHRI SATCHIDANANDA:**

**SHRI R. M. DESAI:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a major breakdown of telephone exchanges in Delhi during the recent monsoon;

(b) what is the number of complaints received from the consumers during the last three months and similar complaints in the last year during this quarter;

(c) what measures have been taken to improve the services;

(d) whether Government are contemplating of giving some rebate to the subscribers whose telephones remain out of order for a long time;

(e) whether it is a fact that senior officials are never available on telephone for complaints and that such complaints are attended to only by their personal assistants; and

(f) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON):**

(a) No Sir, however there were cable breakdowns at the onset of the monsoon affecting 9-10 per cent of the subscribers.

(b) The number of complaints during the last three months in this

year, as well as corresponding period in the last year along with the information about complaints/100 stations/month for the above periods is given in annexure. (See below).

(c) In order to reduce underground cable faults, the following short and long term measures are under implementation—

(i) Pressurisation of main cables.

(ii) Use of jelly filled cables in distribution cable network.

(iii) Opening of more number of cabinets and pillars.

(d) No Sir.

(e) and (f) No Sir, Senior officials are available every day from 3 to 4 p.m. under cable break down situation, the number of complaints are the high to be handled on an individual basis by the officer. Their attention is focussed on repair of the break-down and not on the individual cases.

*Annexure*

	April 1980	1979	May 1980	1979	June 1980	1979
Net number of complaints received from subscribers	173480	147048	186625	164610	186237	169232
Complaints / 100 telephones for the month	68.4	65.1	73.1	72.4	72.2	74.1

**Covering of entire rural population under "Food for Work Programme"**

**258. SHRI IBRAHIM KALANIYA:**  
Will the Minister of RURAL RE-CONSTRUCTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any schemes to cover entire rural population of Gujarat as well as other states under "Food for Work Programmes";

(b) if so, what are the details of the scheme;

(c) whether Government have consulted or sent guidelines to various States and other agencies in the matter; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and if the answer to part